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Ser

From: High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

To: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: Naval Reserve Officers in TERRACIS; status of

Ref: (a) HICOMTERRACIS ltr FF12 A3 ser 191 of 3 Feb 1950
(b) AINAV 83/50
(c) HICOMTERRACIS ltr FF12 A3 ser 544 of 3 April 1950

1. Reference (a) requested information on the status and disposition of, amongst other personnel, Naval Reserve Officers on duty in TERRACIS upon transfer of administrative responsibility to the Department of the Interior; by third endorsement thereon the Chief of Naval Operations proposed to promulgate policies on these matters at an early date. No correspondence on this subject has been received by the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

2. It is understood, unofficially, that the Navy Department has agreed to release to inactive duty Naval Reserve Officers who desire to remain in TERRACIS administration under the Department of the Interior, but no official notification to that effect has been received. Further, the status of a number of reserve officers who have no desire to transfer to the Department of the Interior is uncertain except that their retention in the naval service is indicated by the provisions of reference (b).

3. In response to the survey conducted by reference (c), a number of the reserve officers in TERRACIS indicated that they would prefer to remain in TERRACIS with the Department of the Interior but now, in view of the growing mobilization of the U. S. Military Forces, and because of their loyalty to the Navy, some of these officers prefer to remain on active duty with the Navy.

4. It is requested that the Navy Department policy regarding the retention or disposition of Naval Reserve Officers on duty in Trust Territory be promulgated. Specifically, the policy letter should include, among other items, the following:

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a. Assurance that the reserve officers who desire duty in TERPACIS with the Department of the Interior will be released from active duty for this purpose, if their services are desired by Interior.

b. An indication as to the disposition of reserve officers in TERPACIS who do not desire duty with Interior or whose services are not desired by Interior.

c. Disposition of the reserve officers who originally indicated their willingness to serve with Interior but who have since changed their position and desire to stay on active duty.

5. When the Navy Department's policies on the items outlined above are received they will be immediately promulgated so that individuals may proceed with their own plans. The decisions of these officers will be of great importance to the Department of the Interior in its recruiting program which will be initiated in the near future.

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